



NATIONAL
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United States
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WEATHER & CROPS



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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR APRIL 6, 2014

Virginia experienced favorable weather for the week. Temperatures were about 3 to 9 degrees above normal, with high in the upper 80s. The warm weather was welcomed after the cold temperatures that were present in most of March. Scattered rain showers were observed for the week; rainfall varied from light to just under one inch. Days suitable for fieldwork were 4.9. Corn plantings were behind the 5 year average; however, farmers were busy making preparations to begin planting in earnest for next week. Virginia's strawberry crop was reported less favorable than previous years. Strawberries were under cover longer than normal which caused some damage to the crop. Other farming activities for the week included topdressing small grains, taking soil samples, and preparing tobacco fields.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 6, 2014	0	4	70	26
SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT				
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
April 6, 2014	0	3	80	17

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Virginia Cooperative Extension
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Virginia Tech

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A partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University www.ext.vt.edu

Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Grapes	0	12	48	28	12
CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.	
Corn Planted	3	NA	2	7	
Summer Potatoes Planted	43	NA	84	62	
Winter Wheat Headed	0	NA	1	0	

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING April 6, 2014

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar 1. To April 5	Mar. 1 to April 5 Norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	74	45	88	39	60	9	220	165	0.02	2.96	-1.45	10.05	-0.99
Norfolk	68	45	85	41	57	4	201	185	0.04	3.57	-1.12	9.87	-2.02
Richmond	73	45	85	39	59	7	223	202	0.49	3.26	-1.39	9.57	-1.55
Roanoke	70	45	84	37	57	5	194	NA	0.09	2.87	-1.54	9.14	-1.61
Wash/Dulles	62	39	69	32	51	3	111	NA	0.91	4.15	0.05	10.65	0.70

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Weather has been cloudy and cool.

WESTERN

BOTETOURT (Kate Lawrence)

After a very cold stretch, the temperatures have finally come up to average for this time of year.

CENTRAL

AMHERST (John Benner)

Snow and freezing rain weather Sunday March 30. The following week has resulted in temperatures warming up to 60 degrees in some instances with ample sunshine and low cloud cover.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

The late spring continues, but good progress was made this week. Then we had frost on Sunday Morning 4-6-14....pastures are still mostly behind normal in growth. Small grains seem to be a good bit behind as well, although most has had at least one topdressing and some more. Corn planting began in the latter half of the week in the eastern end of the county. I have not yet had a chance to assess how much had been planted.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Topdressing small grains with the final spring nitrogen application and field preparation for corn planting were the primary activities during the week. A few producers started planting corn.

GLOUCESTER/MATHEWS/MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Field prep for corn planting, wheat tissue sampling and topdressing, securing supplies, soil sampling and some of the activities of the week. Greenhouse planting well underway. Plastic mulch just beginning. Soil temperature is about 50 degrees at 9:00, so corn planting should take off next week. Wheat crop is very varies. Timely planted wheat looks good, late planted wheat is thin and has not tillered very well. Hopefully will catch up in time. With prices, wheat producers need to be striving for 70+ bushels. Some potatoes, onions, peas have been planted.

SOUTHWESTERN

CARROLL (Steve Pottorff)

Very little spring planting has occurred. Soil temperatures are still cool. Frost occurred Saturday evening.

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Weather has moderated and it seems like spring has finally arrived. Gardens are being planted, yards mowed, but still a long ways to go until threat of final killing frost. Strawberries looking to be a week or two behind schedule, expecting first of May harvest. More winter damage than normal due to extra time under covers and frost protection.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

March has been a month of high and low temperatures, rain and snow. Tobacco greenhouses are planted. Small grains are greening up fairly well. Some tobacco fields have been gassed as well.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

After rain today and tomorrow 4/7-4/8, corn planting will start. Wheat fertilizer and herbicides are being applied. Land prepared for peanut and cotton planting.